Central University in Barak Valley district of Assam

2459. SHRI KAMALENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering the proposal to set up a Central University in the Barak Valley district of Assam; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) and (b) The Central Government proposes to establish a Central University in Assam. The location and other details of the University have not yet been decided.

Merging of Sports Authority of India and National Institute of Sports

2460. SHRI M. KADHARSHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to merge the Sports Authority of India and National Institute of Sports into a single body;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) to (c) The necessary legal steps for amalgamation of the Sports Authority of India (SAI) and the Society for the National Institutes of Physical Education & Sports (SNIPES), which manages the Netaji Subhas National Institute of Sports are already going on. The General Bodies of both SAI and SNIPES have adopted resolutions to amalgamate and to carry out the necessary amendments in their objects to make this possible.

Madras to Cuddalore waterway

2461. SHRI M. VINCENT: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal under their consideration to develop Buckingham canal between Pulicut in Madras to Cuddalore as a whaterway;

(b) whether such a proposal has been submitted by the Tamilnadu Government to be undertaken with the help of the World Bank; and

(c) if so, what is the result of the survey, if any, conducted in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (c) An amount of Rs. 200 lakhs have been provided in the Central outlay for improvement of North Buckingham Canal between Madras and Andhra Pradesh Border. The specific proposal from the State Government of Tamil Nadu in this regard has not been received for assistance under Centrally sponsored Schemes. However, the Government of Tamil Nadu have formulated a scheme for improvement of buckingham canal from Ennore lock of Chinthamani lock (18.80 kms.) and this proposal is in process.